

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:CWSCHALLER:IJG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 224700

EXDIS TOPOL 34

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (PORTER, WILLIAM J.)

SUBJECT: KOREAN ITEM IN UNGA

1. AMBASSADOR SCALI ON NOVEMBER 9 CONCLUDED NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRC AMBASSADOR HUANG HUA ON THE TEXT OF A CONSENSUS STATEMENT WHICH WOULD: (1) ANNOUNCE THAT NEITHER THE FRIENDLY NOR THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION WOULD BE PUT TO THE VOTE; (2) ENDORSE THE NORTH-SOUTH COMMUNIQUE'S PRINCIPLES OF REUNIFICATION; AND, (3) DISSOLVE UNCURK.

2. ON NOVEMBER 10 WE INFORMED OUR QUOTE CORE GROUP END QUOTE OF CO-SPONSORS ABOUT THIS PROSPECTIVE COMPROMISE AND-- AT THE STRONG INSISTENCE OF THE PRC -- STRESSED THE NEED FOR ABSOLUTE CONFIDENTIALITY. THE PRC STILL HAS SOME PROBLEMS WITH ITS CO-SPONSORS -- UNSPECIFIED BUT APPARENTLY NOT INCLUDING NORTH KOREA. WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO INFORM THE REMAINING FRIENDLY CO-SPONSORS UNTIL THE PRC IS READY TO TAKE A PARALLEL STEP.

3. THE CHINESE HAVE SAID NOTHING ABOUT THE NATURE OF THEIR PROBLEMS. THEY INSIST THEY WILL ABIDE BY THE AGREEMENT,
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BUT HAVE WARNED THAT A BREACH OF CONFIDENTIALITY COULD IMPERIL IT. USUN HAS POINTED OUT TO THEM THAT WHEN THE CONSENSUS STATEMENT TEXT IS SHARED WITH ALL CO-SPONSORS, AS MUST BE DONE BEFORE DEBATE BEGINS, PRESERVING CONFIDEN-

TIALITY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED.

4. TIME IS GETTING VERY SHORT SINCE THE DEBATE IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14. OUR MISSION TOLD THE CHINESE THAT BOTH SIDES MUST REQUEST POSTPONEMENT OF DEBATE IF BY THAT TIME NORTH KOREA'S SUPPORTERS HAVE NOT YET BEEN BROUGHT ALONG ON THE COMPROMISE.

5. A PROBLEM HAS ALSO ARISEN OVER THE TIMING OF THE CONSENSUS STATEMENT. WE PREFER THAT IT BE ANNOUNCED AT THE BEGINNING OF DEBATE, BUT THE CHINESE INSIST IT COME AT THE END. AMBASSADOR SCALI IS REOPENING THIS MATTER IN ANOTHER PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE CHINESE TONIGHT (NOVEMBER 13) POINTING OUT THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE EXERCISE IS TO AVOID AN ABRASIVE DEBATE.

6. THE ROK IS UNDERSTANDABLY NERVOUS OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF MOVING INTO DEBATE WITHOUT FULL ASSURANCE OF HOW IT WILL END. WE HAVE THEREFORE PROPOSED TO THE CHINESE THAT, AT A MINIMUM, IF THE CONSENSUS STATEMENT IS SURFACED ONLY AT THE END OF DEBATE, THERE MUST BE A JOINT CONFIDENTIAL APPROACH TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BEFORE DEBATE BEGINS AND HE MUST BE TOLD ABOUT THE CONSENSUS STATEMENT THAT WILL BE THE END PRODUCT OF THE DEBATE. RUSH

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